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Met Office science strategy

2 November 2010

The Met Office science strategy, published on the web, will focus on meeting the increasing demands for seamless prediction systems across all timescales from hours to decades, and for the atmosphere, oceans and land surface.

The new five-year strategy takes this agenda of seamless science and prediction and focuses our research around four major challenges:

- Forecasting hazardous weather on time scales from hours to decades;
- Forecasting of the water cycle and quantitative precipitation on all spatial and time scales;
- Monthly to decadal prediction in a changing climate;
- Sensitivity of the Earth system to human activities.

The strategy also recognises the need to continue to build and develop stronger partnerships, both nationally and internationally.

Professor Julia Slingo, Met Office Chief Scientist, said: “The latest science strategy recognises the unique position of the Met Office in having world-class weather forecasting and climate prediction in one place. Exploiting the benefits of those synergies between the science of weather, oceans and climate, lies at the heart of what we will do to deliver greater innovation across our science and services.”

“As a science-led organisation, our success in weather forecasting and climate prediction depends, critically, on having a world-class research programme that ultimately provides forecasts and advice on which the public, businesses, governments and our partners can rely.”

Overview of research by our Chief Scientist

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